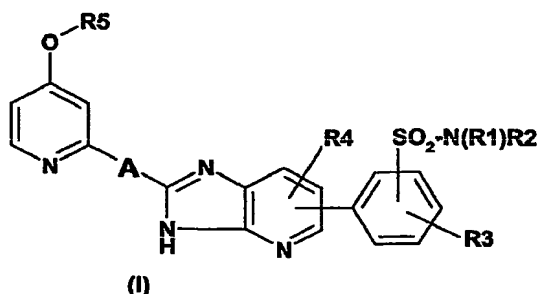


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Patent claims**1. Compounds of formula I**

in which

R1 is hydrogen or 1-4C-alkyl,

R2 is hydrogen or 1-4C-alkyl, and

R3 is 1-4C-alkyl, trifluoromethyl, or completely or predominantly fluorine-substituted 1-4C-alkoxy;
or in which

R1 is 3-7C-cycloalkyl, phenyl-1-4C-alkyl, hydroxy-2-4C-alkyl, 1-4C-alkoxy-2-4C-alkyl, phenyl, pyridyl, or R11 1- and/or R12-substituted phenyl, in which

R11 is 1-4C-alkyl, halogen, 1-4C-alkoxy, or mono- or di-1-4C-alkylamino,

R12 is 1-4C-alkyl or halogen,

R2 is hydrogen, hydroxy-2-4C-alkyl, 1-4C-alkoxy-2-4C-alkyl or 1-4C-alkyl, and

R3 is hydrogen, halogen, 1-4C-alkoxy, 1-4C-alkyl, trifluoromethyl, or completely or predominantly fluorine-substituted 1-4C-alkoxy;

or in which

R1 and R2 together and with inclusion of the nitrogen atom, to which they are bonded, form a heterocyclic ring Het, in which

Het is a fully saturated or partially unsaturated mono- or fused bicyclic ring or ring system made up of

a first constituent being a 3- to 7-membered monocyclic fully saturated non-aromatic heterocyclic ring B,

which heterocyclic ring B comprises one to three heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur,

and which heterocyclic ring B is optionally substituted by one or two oxo groups,

and, optionally, fused to said first constituent,

a second constituent being a benzene ring,

and which ring Het is optionally substituted by R21 on a ring carbon atom,

and/or which ring Het is optionally substituted by R22 on a further ring carbon atom,

and/or which ring Het is optionally substituted by an ethylenedioxy group,

and/or which ring Het is optionally substituted by R23 on a ring nitrogen atom,

in which

R21 is 1-4C-alkyl, 1-4C-alkoxy or phenylcarbonyl,

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R22 is 1-4C-alkyl or 1-4C-alkoxy,

R23 is 1-4C-alkyl, phenyl-1-4C-alkyl, 1-4C-alkylcarbonyl, 1-4C-alkoxy-2-4C-alkyl, mono- or di-1-4C-alkylamino-2-4C-alkyl, phenyl, pyrimidyl, pyridyl, formyl, 3-7C-cycloalkyl, 3-7C-cycloalkylmethyl, or R231- and/or R232-substituted phenyl, in which

R231 is halogen, cyano or 1-4C-alkyl,

R232 is halogen or 1-4C-alkyl, and

R3 is hydrogen, halogen, 1-4C-alkoxy, 1-4C-alkyl, trifluoromethyl, or completely or predominantly fluorine-substituted 1-4C-alkoxy;

and in which

R4 is hydrogen, halogen, 1-4C-alkyl or 1-4C-alkoxy,

R5 is 1-4C-alkyl,

A is 1-4C-alkylene;

the salts, N-oxides and the salts of the N-oxides of these compounds.

2. Compounds of formula I according to claim 1,

in which

R1 is hydrogen or 1-4C-alkyl,

R2 is hydrogen or 1-4C-alkyl, and

R3 is 1-4C-alkyl, trifluoromethyl, or completely or predominantly fluorine-substituted 1-4C-alkoxy;

or in which

R1 is 3-7C-cycloalkyl, phenyl-1-4C-alkyl, hydroxy-2-4C-alkyl, 1-4C-alkoxy-2-4C-alkyl, phenyl, pyridyl, or R11- and/or R12-substituted phenyl, in which

R11 is 1-4C-alkyl, halogen, 1-4C-alkoxy, or di-1-4C-alkylamino,

R12 is 1-4C-alkyl or halogen,

R2 is hydrogen, hydroxy-2-4C-alkyl, 1-4C-alkoxy-2-4C-alkyl or 1-4C-alkyl, and

R3 is hydrogen, halogen, 1-4C-alkyl, trifluoromethyl, or completely or predominantly fluorine-substituted 1-4C-alkoxy;

or in which

R1 and R2 together and with inclusion of the nitrogen atom, to which they are bonded, form a heterocyclic ring Het, in which

Het is a fully saturated or partially unsaturated mono- or fused bicyclic ring or ring system made up of

a first constituent being a 3- to 7-membered monocyclic fully saturated non-aromatic heterocyclic ring B,

which heterocyclic ring B is piperazine, morpholine, thiomorpholine, homopiperazine, piperidine, pyrrolidine or azetidine,

and which heterocyclic ring B is optionally substituted by one or two oxo groups,

and, optionally, fused to said first constituent,

a second constituent being a benzene ring,

and which ring Het is optionally substituted by R21 on a ring carbon atom,

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and/or which ring Het is optionally substituted by R22 on a further ring carbon atom,
 and/or which ring Het is optionally substituted by an ethylenedioxy group,
 and/or which ring Het is optionally substituted by R23 on a ring nitrogen atom,
 in which

R21 is 1-4C-alkyl, 1-4C-alkoxy or phenylcarbonyl,

R22 is 1-4C-alkyl or 1-4C-alkoxy,

R23 is 1-4C-alkyl, phenyl-1-4C-alkyl, 1-4C-alkylcarbonyl, 1-4C-alkoxy-2-4C-alkyl, phenyl, or R231- and/or R232-substituted phenyl, in which

R231 is halogen, cyano or 1-4C-alkyl,

R232 is halogen or 1-4C-alkyl, and

R3 is hydrogen, halogen, 1-4C-alkyl, trifluoromethyl, or completely or predominantly fluorine-substituted 1-4C-alkoxy;

and in which

R4 is hydrogen, or 1-4C-alkyl,

R5 is methyl,

A is ethylene;

the salts, N-oxides and the salts of the N-oxides of these compounds.

3. Compounds of formula I according to claim 1,

in which

R1 is hydrogen or 1-4C-alkyl,

R2 is hydrogen or 1-4C-alkyl, and

R3 is 1-4C-alkyl, trifluoromethyl, or completely or predominantly fluorine-substituted 1-4C-alkoxy;

or in which

R1 is 3-7C-cycloalkyl, phenyl-1-4C-alkyl, hydroxy-2-4C-alkyl, 1-4C-alkoxy-2-4C-alkyl, phenyl, pyridyl, or R11- and/or R12-substituted phenyl, in which

R11 is 1-4C-alkyl, halogen, 1-4C-alkoxy, or di-1-4C-alkylamino,

R12 is 1-4C-alkyl or halogen,

R2 is hydrogen, hydroxy-2-4C-alkyl, 1-4C-alkoxy-2-4C-alkyl or 1-4C-alkyl, and

R3 is hydrogen, halogen, 1-4C-alkyl, trifluoromethyl, or completely or predominantly fluorine-substituted 1-4C-alkoxy;

or in which

R1 and R2 together and with inclusion of the nitrogen atom, to which they are bonded, form a heterocyclic ring Het, in which

Het is piperidinyl, pyrrolidinyl or azetidinyl, or

morpholinyl, thiomorpholinyl, S-oxo-thiomorpholinyl or S,S-dioxo-thiomorpholinyl, or 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolinyl or di-(1-4C-alkoxy)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolinyl, or piperidinyl substituted by either ethylenedioxy or R21, or

4N-(R23)-piperazinyl or 4N-(R23)-homopiperazinyl, or

4N-(H)-1,4-diazepan-5-one-1-yl or 4N-(R23)-1,4-diazepan-5-one-1-yl,

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in which

R21 is 1-4C-alkyl, or phenylcarbonyl,

R23 is 1-4C-alkyl, phenyl-1-4C-alkyl, 1-4C-alkylcarbonyl, 1-4C-alkoxy-2-4C-alkyl, phenyl, or R231- and/or R232-substituted phenyl, in which

R231 is halogen, cyano or 1-4C-alkyl,

R232 is halogen or 1-4C-alkyl, and

R3 is hydrogen, halogen, 1-4C-alkyl, trifluoromethyl, or completely or predominantly fluorine-substituted 1-4C-alkoxy;

and in which

R4 is hydrogen, or 1-4C-alkyl,

R5 is methyl,

A is ethylene;

the salts, N-oxides and the salts of the N-oxides of these compounds.

4. Compounds of formula I according to claim 1,

in which

R1 is hydrogen or 1-4C-alkyl,

R2 is hydrogen or 1-4C-alkyl, and

R3 is 1-4C-alkyl, trifluoromethyl, or completely or predominantly fluorine-substituted 1-4C-alkoxy;

or in which

R1 is 3-7C-cycloalkyl, phenyl-1-4C-alkyl, hydroxy-2-4C-alkyl, 1-4C-alkoxy-2-4C-alkyl, phenyl, pyridyl, or R11- and/or R12-substituted phenyl, in which

either

R11 is 1-4C-alkyl, 1-4C-alkoxy, or di-1-4C-alkylamino, and

R12 is halogen,

or

R11 is halogen, 1-4C-alkoxy, or di-1-4C-alkylamino, and

R12 is 1-4C-alkyl,

R2 is hydrogen, hydroxy-2-4C-alkyl, 1-4C-alkoxy-2-4C-alkyl or 1-4C-alkyl, and

R3 is hydrogen;

or in which

R1 and R2 together and with inclusion of the nitrogen atom, to which they are bonded, form a heterocyclic ring Het, in which

Het is piperidinyl, pyrrolidinyl or azetidiny, or morpholinyl, thiomorpholinyl, S-oxo-thiomorpholinyl or S,S-dioxo-thiomorpholinyl, or 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolinyl or di-(1-4C-alkoxy)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolinyl, or piperidinyl substituted by either ethylenedioxy or R21, or 4N-(R23)-piperazinyl or 4N-(1-4C-alkyl)-homopiperazinyl, or 4N-(H)-1,4-diazepan-5-one-1-yl, 4N-(phenyl-1-4C-alkyl)-1,4-diazepan-5-one-1-yl or 4N-(1-4C-alkyl)-1,4-diazepan-5-one-1-yl,

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in which

R21 is 1-4C-alkyl, or phenylcarbonyl,

R23 is 1-4C-alkyl, phenyl-1-4C-alkyl, 1-4C-alkylcarbonyl, 1-4C-alkoxy-2-4C-alkyl, phenyl, or R231- and/or R232-substituted phenyl, in which

R231 is halogen, cyano or 1-4C-alkyl,

R232 is halogen or 1-4C-alkyl, and

R3 is hydrogen, halogen, 1-4C-alkyl, trifluoromethyl, or completely or predominantly fluorine-substituted 1-4C-alkoxy;

and in which

R4 is hydrogen, or 1-4C-alkyl,

R5 is methyl,

A is ethylene;

the salts, N-oxides and the salts of the N-oxides of these compounds.

5. Compounds of formula I according to claim 1,

in which

R1 is methyl,

R2 is methyl, and

R3 is methyl, trifluoromethyl, or trifluoromethoxy;

or in which

R1 is cyclohexyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopropyl, benzyl, 2-hydroxy-ethyl, 2-methoxy-ethyl, phenyl, pyridyl, or R11- and/or R12-substituted phenyl, in which

either

R11 is methyl, methoxy, or dimethylamino, and

R12 is fluorine,

or

R11 is fluorine, chlorine, methoxy, or dimethylamino, and

R12 is methyl,

R2 is hydrogen, 2-hydroxy-ethyl, 2-methoxy-ethyl, or methyl, and

R3 is hydrogen;

or in which

R1 and R2 together and with inclusion of the nitrogen atom, to which they are bonded, form a heterocyclic ring Het, in which

Het is piperidinyl, pyrrolidinyl or azetidiny, or morpholinyl, thiomorpholinyl, S-oxo-thiomorpholinyl or S,S-dioxo-thiomorpholinyl, or 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolinyl, di-methoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolinyl, or di-ethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolinyl, or 4,4-ethylenedioxy-piperidinyl or 4-(R21)-piperidinyl, or 4N-(R23)-piperazinyl or 4N-methyl-homopiperazinyl, or

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4N-(H)-1,4-diazepan-5-one-1-yl, 4N-benzyl-1,4-diazepan-5-one-1-yl, 4N-methyl-1,4-diazepan-5-one-1-yl, or 4N-ethyl-1,4-diazepan-5-one-1-yl,

in which

R21 is methyl, or phenylcarbonyl,

R23 is methyl, ethyl, benzyl, phenethyl, acetyl, 2-methoxy-ethyl, phenyl, or R231- and/or R232-substituted phenyl, in which

either

R231 is chlorine, cyano or methyl, and

R232 is chlorine,

or

R231 is chlorine, cyano or methyl, and

R232 is methyl, and

R3 is hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, methyl, trifluoromethyl, or trifluoromethoxy;

and in which

R4 is hydrogen, or methyl,

R5 is methyl,

A is ethylene;

the salts, N-oxides and the salts of the N-oxides of these compounds.

6. Compounds of formula I according to claim 1,

in which

R1 is hydrogen or 1-4C-alkyl,

R2 is hydrogen or 1-4C-alkyl, and

R3 is 1-4C-alkyl, trifluoromethyl, or completely or predominantly fluorine-substituted 1-4C-alkoxy;

or

R1 is 3-7C-cycloalkyl, phenyl-1-4C-alkyl, hydroxy-2-4C-alkyl, 1-4C-alkoxy-2-4C-alkyl, phenyl, pyridyl, or R11- and/or R12-substituted phenyl, in which

R11 is 1-4C-alkyl, halogen, 1-4C-alkoxy, or mono- or di-1-4C-alkylamino,

R12 is 1-4C-alkyl or halogen,

R2 is hydrogen, hydroxy-2-4C-alkyl, 1-4C-alkoxy-2-4C-alkyl or 1-4C-alkyl, and

R3 is hydrogen, halogen, 1-4C-alkoxy, 1-4C-alkyl, trifluoromethyl, or completely or predominantly fluorine-substituted 1-4C-alkoxy;

or

R1 and **R2** together and with inclusion of the nitrogen atom, to which they are bonded, form a heterocyclic ring Het, in which

Het is a 3- to 10-membered saturated or partially saturated heterocyclic ring comprising totally 1 to 3 heteroatoms selected from a group consisting of oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen, and optionally substituted by **R21** on a ring carbon atom and/or by **R22** on a further ring carbon atom and/or by **R23** on a ring nitrogen atom, in which

R21 is 1-4C-alkyl, 1-4C-alkoxy or phenylcarbonyl,

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- R22 is 1-4C-alkyl or 1-4C-alkoxy,
R23 is 1-4C-alkyl, phenyl-1-4C-alkyl, 1-4C-alkylcarbonyl, 1-4C-alkoxy-2-4C-alkyl, mono- or di-1-4C-alkylamino-2-4C-alkyl, phenyl, pyrimidyl, pyridyl, formyl, 3-7C-cycloalkyl, 3-7C-cycloalkylmethyl, or R231- and/or R232-substituted phenyl, in which
R231 is halogen, cyano or 1-4C-alkyl,
R232 is halogen or 1-4C-alkyl, and
R3 is hydrogen, halogen, 1-4C-alkoxy, 1-4C-alkyl, trifluoromethyl, or completely or predominantly fluorine-substituted 1-4C-alkoxy;
R4 is hydrogen, halogen, 1-4C-alkyl or 1-4C-alkoxy,
R5 is 1-4C-alkyl,
A is 1-4C-alkylene;
the salts, N-oxides and the salts of the N-oxides of these compounds.

7. Compounds of formula I according to claim 1,
in which

- R1 is hydrogen or 1-4C-alkyl,
R2 is hydrogen or 1-4C-alkyl, and
R3 is 1-4C-alkyl, trifluoromethyl, or completely or predominantly fluorine-substituted 1-4C-alkoxy;
or
R1 is 3-7C-cycloalkyl, phenyl-1-4C-alkyl, hydroxy-2-4C-alkyl, phenyl, pyridyl, or R11- and/or R12-substituted phenyl, in which

either

- R11 is 1-4C-alkyl, 1-4C-alkoxy, or mono- or di-1-4C-alkylamino, and
R12 is halogen,

or

- R11 is halogen, 1-4C-alkoxy, or mono- or di-1-4C-alkylamino, and
R12 is 1-4C-alkyl,
R2 is hydrogen, hydroxy-2-4C-alkyl or 1-4C-alkyl, and
R3 is hydrogen, halogen, 1-4C-alkoxy, 1-4C-alkyl, trifluoromethyl, or completely or predominantly fluorine-substituted 1-4C-alkoxy;

or

R1 and R2 together and with inclusion of the nitrogen atom, to which they are bonded, form a heterocyclic ring Het, in which

Het is optionally substituted by R21 on a ring carbon atom and/or by R22 on a further ring carbon atom and/or by R23 on a ring nitrogen atom and is azetidin-1-yl, pyrrolidin-1-yl, piperazin-1-yl, thiomorpholin-4-yl, homopiperidin-1-yl, homopiperazin-1-yl, indolin-1-yl, isoindolin-1-yl, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolin-2-yl, piperidin-1-yl, morpholin-4-yl, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-1-yl, 1,4-diazepan-5-one-1-yl, or 1,4-dioxo-8-azaspiro[4.5]decan-8-yl, in which

- R21 is 1-4C-alkyl, 1-4C-alkoxy or phenylcarbonyl,
R22 is 1-4C-alkoxy,

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R23 is 1-4C-alkyl, phenyl-1-4C-alkyl, 1-4C-alkylcarbonyl, 1-4C-alkoxy-2-4C-alkyl, phenyl, or R231- and/or R232-substituted phenyl, in which

R231 is halogen, cyano or 1-4C-alkyl,

R232 is halogen or 1-4C-alkyl, and

R3 is hydrogen, halogen, 1-4C-alkoxy, 1-4C-alkyl, trifluoromethyl, or completely or predominantly fluorine-substituted 1-4C-alkoxy;

R4 is hydrogen,

R5 is methyl,

A is ethylene;

the salts, N-oxides and the salts of the N-oxides of these compounds.

8. Compounds of formula I according to claim 1,
in which

R1 is methyl,

R2 is methyl, and

R3 is methyl, trifluoromethyl or trifluoromethoxy;

or

R1 is cyclohexyl, benzyl, 2-hydroxyethyl, phenyl, pyridyl, or R11- and/or R12-substituted phenyl, in which

either

R11 is methyl, methoxy or dimethylamino, and

R12 is chlorine or fluorine,

or

R11 is chlorine, fluorine, methoxy or dimethylamino, and

R12 is methyl,

R2 is hydrogen or methyl,

or R1 and R2 are both 2-hydroxyethyl, and

R3 is hydrogen;

or

R1 and R2 together and with inclusion of the nitrogen atom, to which they are bonded, form a heterocyclic ring Het, in which

Het is piperidin-1-yl, or piperidin-1-yl substituted by R21, in which

R21 is methyl or phenylcarbonyl,

or

Het is 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-2-yl substituted by R21 and R22, in which

R21 is methoxy,

R22 is methoxy,

or

Het is piperazin-1-yl substituted by R23 on 4-N, in which

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R23 is methyl, ethyl, benzyl, phenethyl, acetyl, 2-methoxyethyl, phenyl, or R231- and/or R232-substituted phenyl, in which

R231 is chlorine, cyano or methyl,

R232 is chlorine or methyl,

or

Het is 1,4-diazepan-5-one-1-yl, or 1,4-diazepan-5-one-1-yl substituted by R23 on 4-N, in which

R23 is methyl, ethyl or benzyl,

or

Het is homopiperazin-1-yl substituted by R23 on 4-N, in which

R23 is methyl,

or

Het is morpholin-4-yl, azetidin-1-yl, pyrrolidin-1-yl, or 1,4-dioxo-8-azaspiro[4.5]decan-8-yl, and

R3 is hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, methyl, trifluoromethyl or trifluoromethoxy;

R4 is hydrogen,

R5 is methyl,

A is ethylene;

the salts, N-oxides and the salts of the N-oxides of these compounds.

9. A compound of formula I according to claim 1 which is selected from

1. 2-[2-(4-Methoxypyridin-2-yl)ethyl]-6-[4-(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-3H-imidazo- [4,5-b]pyridine
2. 2-[2-(4-Methoxypyridin-2-yl)ethyl]-6-[4-(4-benzylpiperazin-1-yl-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-3H-imidazo- [4,5-b]pyridine
3. 2-[2-(4-Methoxypyridin-2-yl)ethyl]-6-[4-(4-phenylpiperazin-1-yl-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-3H-imidazo- [4,5-b]pyridine
4. 2-[2-(4-Methoxypyridin-2-yl)ethyl]-6-[4-[4-(4-cyanophenyl)-piperazin-1-yl-sulfonyl]-phenyl]-3H-imidazo- [4,5-b]pyridine
5. 2-[2-(4-Methoxypyridin-2-yl)ethyl]-6-[4-(4-p-tolyl-piperazin-1-yl-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-3H-imidazo- [4,5-b]pyridine
6. 6-{4-[4-(2,4-Dimethylphenyl)-piperazin-1-yl-sulfonyl]-phenyl}-2-[2-(4-methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine
7. 6-{4-[4-(3,5-Dichlorophenyl)-piperazin-1-yl-sulfonyl]-phenyl}-2-[2-(4-methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine
8. 6-{4-[4-(2-Methoxy-ethyl)-piperazin-1-yl-sulfonyl]-phenyl}-2-[2-(4-methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine
9. 6-[4-(4-Acetyl-piperazin-1-yl-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-2-[2-(4-methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine
10. 2-[2-(4-Methoxypyridin-2-yl)ethyl]-6-[4-(morpholin-4-yl-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-3H-imidazo-[4,5-b]pyridine

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11. 2-[2-(4-Methoxypyridin-2-yl)ethyl]-6-[4-(4-methyl-[1,4]diazepan-1-yl-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-3H-imidazo-[4,5-b]pyridine
12. 2-[2-(4-Methoxypyridin-2-yl)ethyl]-6-[4-(4-methyl-piperidin-1-yl-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-3H-imidazo-[4,5-b]pyridine
13. 6-[4-(4-Benzoyl-piperidin-1-yl-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-2-[2-(4-methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine
14. 6-[4-(1,4-dioxo-8-azaspiro[4.5]decan-8-yl-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-2-[2-(4-methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine
15. 6-[4-(6,7-Dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-2-yl-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-2-[2-(4-methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine
16. 6-[4-(1,4-Diazepan-5-one-1-yl-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-2-[2-(4-methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine
17. N-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-4-{2-[2-(4-methoxypyridin-2-yl)ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-6-yl}benzenesulfonamid
18. N,N-Bis-(2-hydroxyethyl)-4-{2-[2-(4-methoxypyridin-2-yl)ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-6-yl}benzenesulfonamid
19. N-Benzyl-4-{2-[2-(4-methoxypyridin-2-yl)ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-6-yl}benzenesulfonamid
20. N-Cyclohexyl-4-{2-[2-(4-methoxypyridin-2-yl)ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-6-yl}benzenesulfonamid
21. 4-{2-[2-(4-Methoxypyridin-2-yl)ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-6-yl}-N,N-dimethyl-2-trifluormethoxy-benzenesulfonamide
22. 4-{2-[2-(4-Methoxypyridin-2-yl)ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-6-yl}-N,N-dimethyl-2-trifluormethyl-benzenesulfonamide
23. 4-{2-[2-(4-Methoxypyridin-2-yl)ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-6-yl}-N,N-dimethyl-3-methyl-benzenesulfonamide
24. 4-{2-[2-(4-Methoxypyridin-2-yl)ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-6-yl}-N-phenyl-benzenesulfonamide
25. 4-{2-[2-(4-Methoxypyridin-2-yl)ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-6-yl}-N-p-tolyl-benzenesulfonamide
26. 4-{2-[2-(4-Methoxypyridin-2-yl)ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-6-yl}-N-(2-methoxyphenyl)-benzenesulfonamide
27. N-(4-Dimethylamino-phenyl)-4-{2-[2-(4-methoxypyridin-2-yl)ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-6-yl}benzenesulfonamid
28. N-(4-Chlorophenyl)-N-methyl-4-{2-[2-(4-methoxypyridin-2-yl)ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-6-yl}benzenesulfonamid
29. 2-[2-(4-Methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-6-[4-(4-phenethyl-piperazine-1-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine
30. 6-[4-(4-Ethyl-piperazine-1-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-2-[2-(4-methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine

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31. 6-[4-[4-(2,6-Dimethyl-phenyl)-piperazine-1-sulfonyl]-phenyl]-2-[2-(4-methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine
32. 2-[2-(4-Methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-6-[4-(4-o-tolyl-piperazine-1-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine
33. 2-[2-(4-Methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-6-[3-(4-methyl-piperazine-1-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine
34. 2-[2-(4-Methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-6-[4-(piperidine-1-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine
35. 4-[2-[2-(4-Methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-6-yl]-N-phenyl-benzenesulfonamide
36. 2-[2-(4-Methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-6-[4-(4-methyl-piperazine-1-sulfonyl)-3-trifluoromethoxy-phenyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine
37. 6,7-Diethoxy-2-(4-{2-[2-(4-methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-6-yl}-benzenesulfonyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline
38. 2-[2-(4-Methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-6-[4-(4-methyl-piperazine-1-sulfonyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine
39. 6-[3-Fluoro-4-(4-methyl-piperazine-1-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-2-[2-(4-methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine
40. 6-[3-Chloro-4-(4-methyl-piperazine-1-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-2-[2-(4-methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine
41. 6-[2-Fluoro-4-(4-methyl-piperazine-1-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-2-[2-(4-methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine
42. 4-Benzyl-1-(4-{2-[2-(4-methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-6-yl}-benzenesulfonyl)-[1,4]diazepan-5-one
43. 4-{2-[2-(4-Methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-6-yl}-N-methyl-N-phenyl-benzenesulfonamide
44. 2-[2-(4-Methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-6-[2-methyl-4-(4-methyl-piperazine-1-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine
45. 1-(4-{2-[2-(4-Methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-6-yl}-benzenesulfonyl)-4-methyl-[1,4]diazepan-5-one
46. 4-Ethyl-1-(4-{2-[2-(4-methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-6-yl}-benzenesulfonyl)-[1,4]diazepan-5-one
47. 4-{2-[2-(4-Methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-6-yl}-N-o-tolyl-benzenesulfonamide
48. 4-{2-[2-(4-Methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-6-yl}-N-methyl-N-pyridin-4-yl-benzenesulfonamide
49. 4-{2-[2-(4-Methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-6-yl}-N-methyl-N-p-tolyl-benzenesulfonamide
50. N-(4-Dimethylamino-phenyl)-4-{2-[2-(4-methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-6-yl}-N-methyl-benzenesulfonamide

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51. N-(2-Fluoro-4-methyl-phenyl)-4-{2-[2-(4-methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-6-yl}-benzenesulfonamide
 52. N-(4-Methoxy-phenyl)-4-{2-[2-(4-methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-6-yl}-benzenesulfonamide
 53. N-(4-Methoxy-phenyl)-4-{2-[2-(4-methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-6-yl}-N-methyl-benzenesulfonamide
 54. 4-{2-[2-(4-Methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-6-yl}-N-methyl-N-o-tolyl-benzenesulfonamide
 55. N-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-4-{2-[2-(4-methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-6-yl}-benzenesulfonamide
 56. 2-[2-(4-Methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-6-[4-(pyrrolidine-1-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine
 57. 6-[4-(Azetidine-1-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-2-[2-(4-methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine
 58. N,N-Bis-(2-methoxy-ethyl)-4-{2-[2-(4-methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-6-yl}-benzenesulfonamide
 59. N-Cyclobutyl-4-{2-[2-(4-methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-6-yl}-benzene-sulfonamide
 60. N-Cyclopropyl-4-{2-[2-(4-methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-6-yl}-benzene-sulfonamide
 61. 2-[2-(4-Methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-7-methyl-6-[4-(pyrrolidine-1-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine
 62. 2-[2-(4-Methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-7-methyl-6-[4-(piperidine-1-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine
 63. 2-[2-(4-Methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-7-methyl-6-[4-(morpholine-4-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine
 64. 6-[4-(Azetidine-1-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-2-[2-(4-methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-7-methyl-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine
 65. 2-[2-(4-Methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-6-[4-(thiomorpholine-4-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine
 66. 2-[2-(4-Methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-6-[4-(1-oxo-1(4)-thiomorpholine-4-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine
 67. 6-[4-(1,1-Dioxo-1(6)-thiomorpholine-4-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-2-[2-(4-methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine and
 68. 2-(4-{2-[2-(4-Methoxy-pyridin-2-yl)-ethyl]-3-H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-6-yl}-benzenesulfonyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinoline,
- or a salt, N-oxide or salt of a N-oxide thereof.

10. Compounds of formula I according to claim 1 for the treatment of diseases.

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11. Pharmaceutical compositions containing one or more compounds of formula I according to claim 1 together with the usual pharmaceutical auxiliaries and/or excipients.
12. Use of compounds of formula I according to claim 1 for the production of pharmaceutical compositions for the treatment of acute inflammatory diseases.
13. Use of compounds of formula I according to claim 1 for the production of pharmaceutical compositions for the treatment of chronic inflammatory diseases of peripheral organs and the CNS.
14. A method for treating acute inflammatory diseases in a patient comprising administering to said patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula I according to claim 1.
15. A method for treating chronic inflammatory diseases of peripheral organs and the CNS in a patient comprising administering to said patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula I according to claim 1.